Montana State Library Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Report

The Montana State Library helps all organizations, communities, and Montanans thrive through excellent library resources and services.

Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Report

NOTE: The contents of this report are from an original Story Map published in 2017. In February 2026, ESRI deprecated the Classic Story Map format, making it necessary to recover and republish the FY 2017 Annual Report in document form.

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Year in Review

1 STATE LIBRARIAN JENNIE STAPP

Fiscal Year 2017 began on a high note. The State Library Commission, along with our partners, conducted strategic planning that culminated in a new strategic framework for the State Library. Through this frame, the Montana State Library (MSL) articulates a new purpose that is outcome focused and impact driven:

The Montana State Library (MSL) helps all organizations, communities, and Montanans thrive through excellent library resources and services.

To fulfill this purpose the State Library will:

Foster partnerships because partnerships are necessary to ensure that Montanans thrive. Through partnerships, MSL and those we serve will continue to move Montana forward.

Secure sufficient and sustainable funding so that we have the funds and capacity to meet the expectations of our partners and Montanans; and because we are an innovative, forward thinking, and fiscally responsible organization in fulfilling our mandates and meeting the expectations of our partners and Montana citizens.

Create a useful information infrastructure so that Montanans have the information and library services they need to understand and influence change in their community. We want others to follow Montana's model of open, transparent, cooperative information management practices.

As staff develop annual work plans, these key principles guide our work, as does a commitment to understanding the needs of our key stakeholders, engaging in activities that bring true public value, and in collecting the data and stories that help us to communicate the value we deliver.

We went into the 2017 legislative session with high hopes for the State Library's budget and for our legislation to extend the sunset date on the statutory appropriation for state aid to public libraries. Those hopes quickly waned in the face of fiscal concerns due to declining revenue estimates. Though House Bill 261, the bill to extend public library state aid to 2023, passed by wide margins in both the House and Senate, the final version of the bill was amended to include revenue triggers that ultimately voided any state aid funding to libraries for both fiscal years 2018 and 2019.

Similarly, the overall MSL fiscal year 2018/2019 budget was severely impacted by revenue declines when our budget was included in Senate Bill 261, a bill that tied general fund budgets to revenue triggers. Though the cuts did not take effect until mid-summer, given the loss of nearly 25% of the agency's general fund budget, staff's good work throughout FY17 was overshadowed at the end of the fiscal year as we planned for the loss of this funding. MSL cannot look the same in the face of budget cuts of that size. Ultimately, the losses included twelve FTE, the closing of the public reading room, reduced hours of service for Talking Book Library patrons, reduced funding for the Montana Natural Heritage Program contract, and numerous other changes, the impacts of which we are only beginning to feel.

While we continue to seek bright spots, continuing budget uncertainty means that concerns for the future of our services linger.

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Our Divisions

MSL has three divisions: Statewide Library Resources, The Digital Library, and Central Services.

Statewide Library Resources provides leadership and guidance to improve library programs, services, and facilities.

Our programs and services support collaboration and affordable resource sharing among libraries, with the vision that every person in Montana has access to excellent library services, whether in the library, at home, or on the go.

The Montana Talking Book Library offers alternative reading materials for eligible Montana residents who are unable to read standard print due to low vision, blindness, and physical and/or reading disabilities.

LEARN
GROW
SERVE

Montana Certification Program for
Library Directors, Staff, and Trustees

Montana Library2Go

M T B L
MONTANA TALKING BOOK LIBRARY
MONTANA STATE LIBRARY

Montana Shared Catalog

2 STATEWIDE LIBRARY RESOURCES PROGRAM LOGOS

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The Digital Library collects and provides access to the publications produced by the State of Montana, and natural resources and geographic information about the state.

The Natural Heritage Program provides information on Montana's species and habitats, emphasizing those of conservation concern.

The Digital Library maintains a GIS data list, web services and web applications to make geographic information readily access.

MT.GOV Connect is the online search portal for State of Montana web pages dating from 1996 to the present.

The Digital Library also serves the information needs of state employees, federal partners, and the citizens of Montana.

3 DIGITAL LIBRARY PROGRAM LOGOS AND CONFERENCE BOOTH

MSL is supported by a small Central Services staff who provide accounting, human resources, information technology, and general administrative support.

4 PHOTO OF MONTANA STATE LIBRARY OFFICES AT 1515 EAST 6TH AVENUE, HELENA, MONTANA

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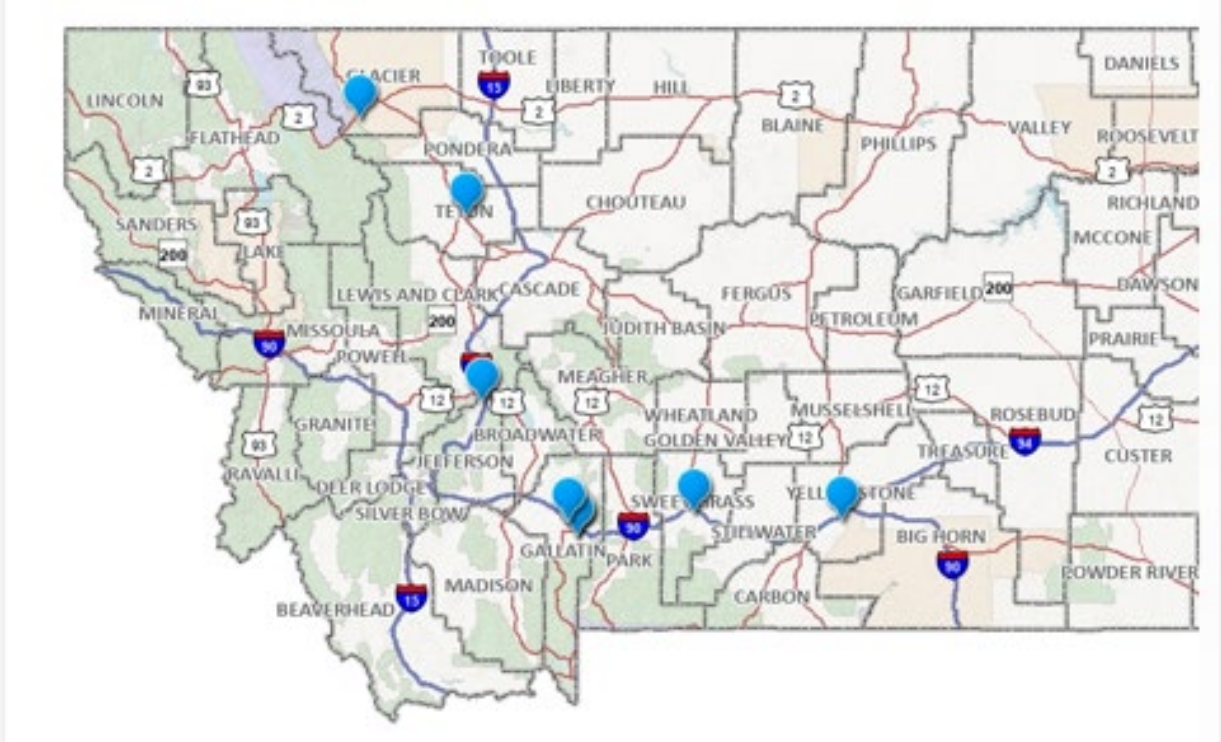
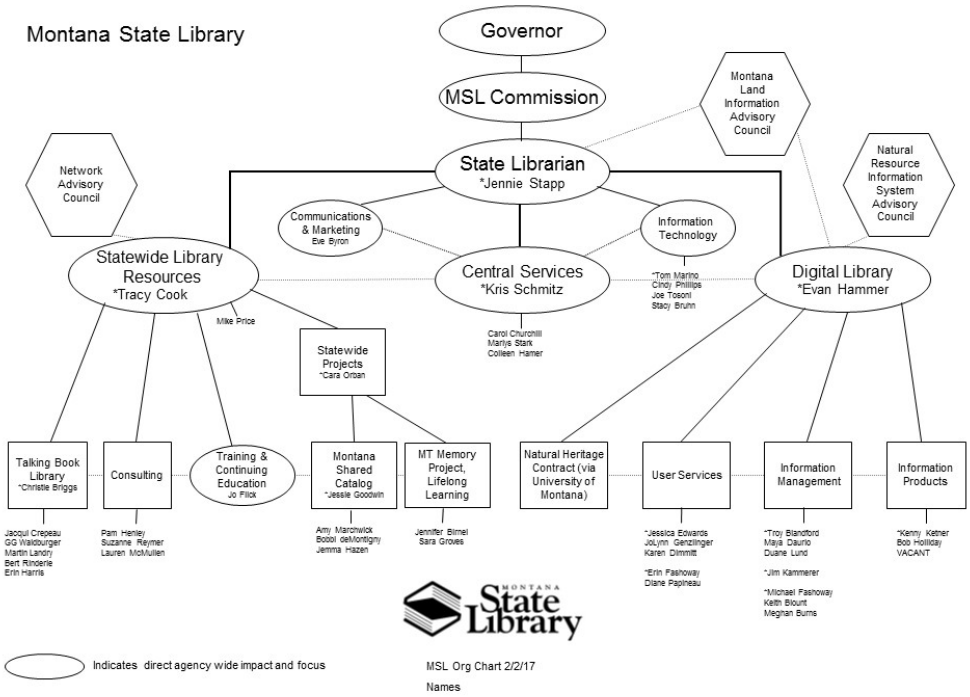
MSL staff live and work around Montana.



In October 2016, the Digital Library completed a reorganization which created three work units: User Services, Information Management and Information Products.



In December, GIS Analyst, Gerry Daumiller, retired after 28 years of service.

5 GOVERNOR STEVE BULLOCK, GIS ANALYST, GERRY DAUMILLER, AND ANGELA MCLEAN, LT GOVERNOR.

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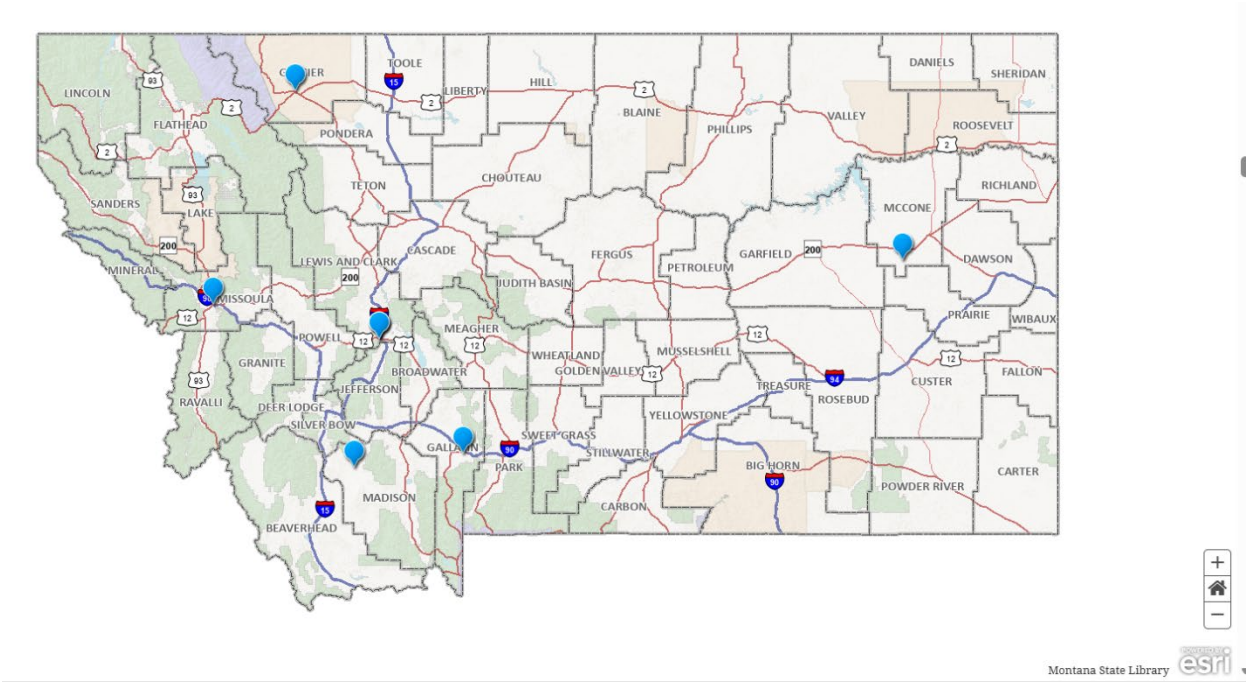
Our Commissions and Councils

The State Library Commission is the governing body of the State Library in accordance with 22-1-101, Montana Code Annotated.



6 Commissioners Kenning Arlitsch, Elsie Arntzen, Aaron LaFromboise, Bruce Newell, Connie Eissinger, Ken Wall, and Anne Kish

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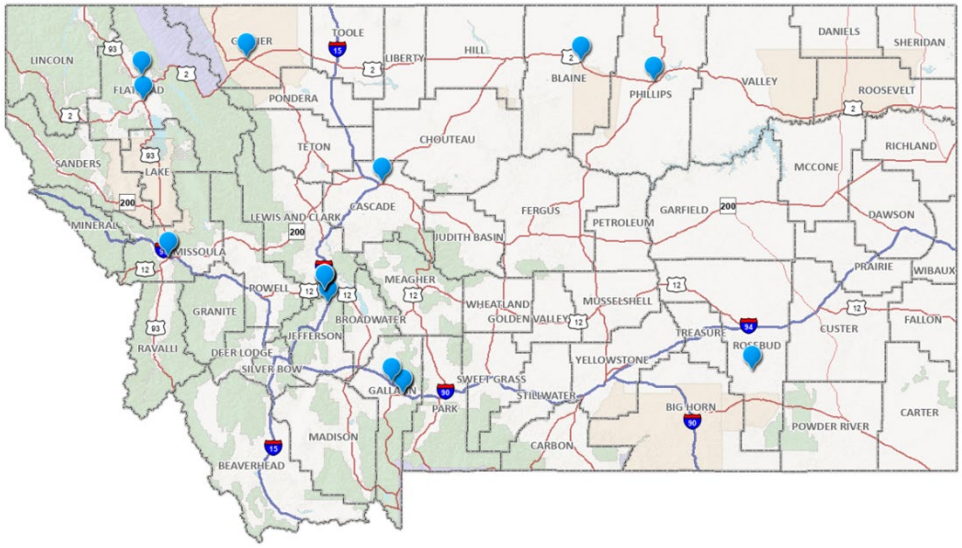
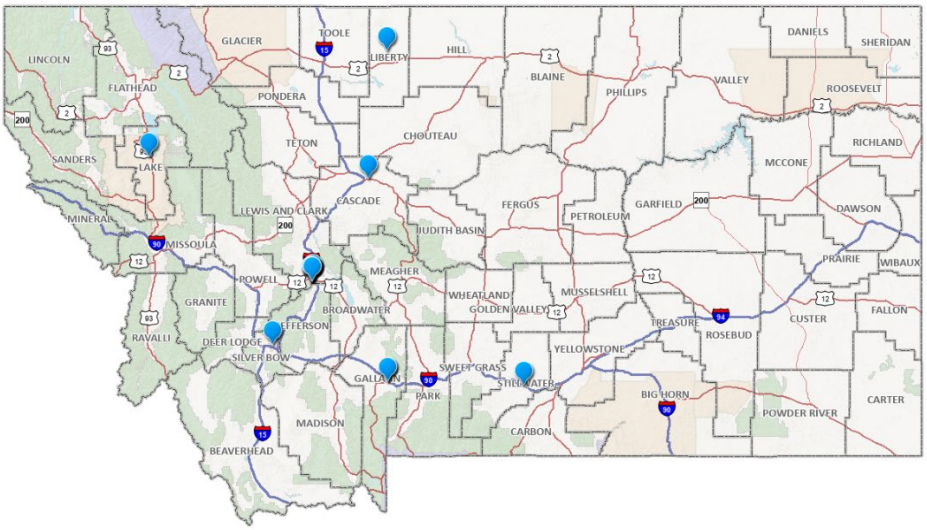
The Network Advisory Council (NAC) represents the interests of all types of Montana libraries and maintains the perspective of statewide geographical balance as it explores technology resources, assists with the official procurement process of those resources, reviews and evaluates the feasibility, design, and outcomes of statewide library projects; assists with statewide planning, and advises the State Librarian and the State Library Commission as appropriate.



The Montana Land Information Advisory Council (Council), as required by statute, advises the State Librarian and the State Library Commission on issues related to land information, on the priority of land information, including data layers to be developed, on the development and management of the Montana Land Information Act grant process and on the distribution of funds collected in the Montana Land Information Account.



Montana State Library

Accomplishments

The BSCDN joins the DPLA

In fiscal year 2016, the Montana Memory Project, the Montana Historical Society, Montana State University, and the University of Montana formed the Big Sky Country Digital Network (BSCDN). This year the BSCDN became a Digital Public Library of America hub. BSCDN hopes that being on the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) will help people discover the rich historical content these institutions provide for people interested in Montana culture and history. The BSCDN represents 63 contributing institutions. Together they have contributed more than 60,000 items to the DPLA.

7 PHOTOGRAPH OF VOLUNTEERS OR LIBRARIANS LOADING THE FIVE VALLEYS FEDERATION OF LIBRARIES BOOKMOBILE WITH BOOKS.

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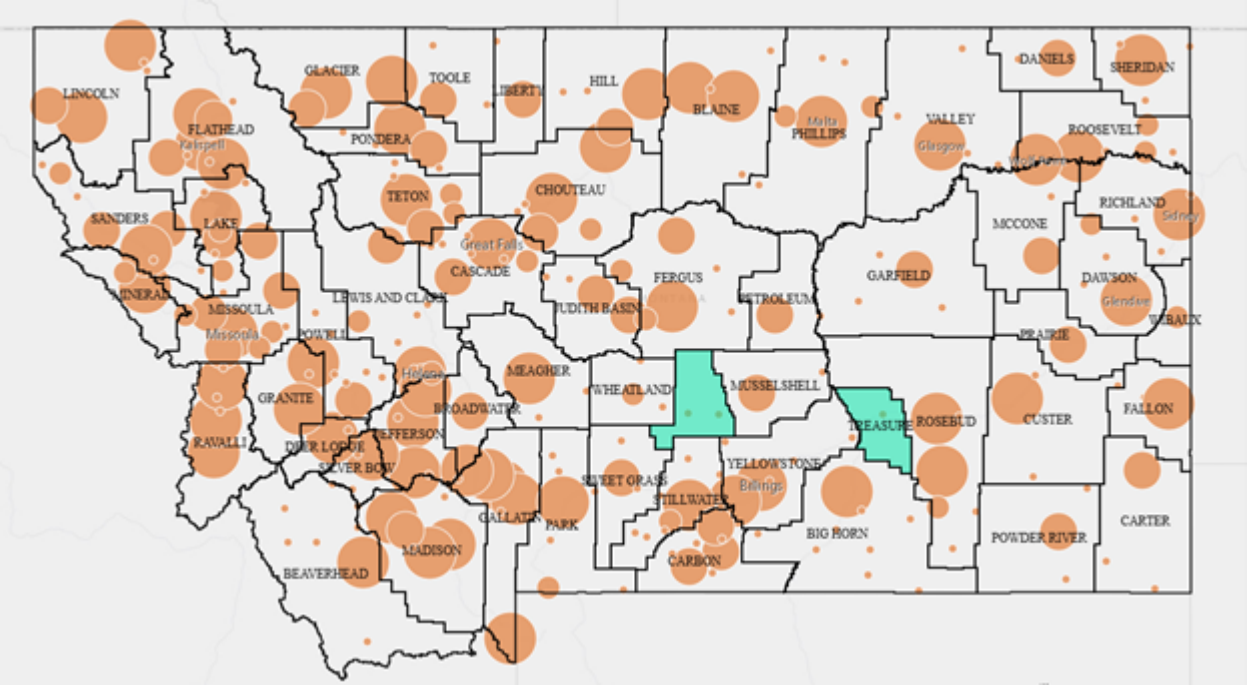
LSTA Evaluation and Planning



Library development services are primarily funded by federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds which are administered by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS). IMLS requires state libraries to complete a five year plan that outlines what we hope to accomplish with those federal dollars. At the end of the five-year period, we are required to evaluate our progress and use that information to create a new five-year plan.

LSTA Evaluation 2013-2017

MSL hired Dr. Anthony Chow to evaluate MSL's progress. He reported that MSL achieved five of the nine IMLS priorities, and that MSL successfully achieved all four LSTA goals. Dr. Chow interviewed librarians from around the state, MSL staff, Commission members and Network Advisory Council members. He also gathered patron and non-patron feedback.

Dr. Chow reported that the primary challenges facing Montana libraries are funding/budgets, adequate staffing, physical accessibility, and resources. The primary opportunities are providing

8 BOULDER COMMUNITY LIBRARY DIRECTOR, JODIE SMILEY, AND FOUNDING PATRON

lifelong learning programming, ensuring adequate and well-trained staff, continued partnerships and community advocacy, and marketing and outreach.

Library Development Staff and the Network Advisory Council used this information to create a new five-year plan that tied LSTA goals to the State Library's Strategic Framework of foster partnerships; secure sufficient and sustainable funding, and create useful information infrastructure.

LSTA Plan 2018-2022

9 MOTHER & SON AT THE NORTH JEFFERSON COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT IN CLANCY

Building upon the work of the Library Development Study Task Force, MSL's Strategic Framework, and the LSTA evaluation report, we identified the following goals for the next five-year period of the LSTA cycle.

Goal 1: Collaboration – The Montana State Library encourages, plans, implements, and supports libraries with collaborative efforts.

Goal 2: Outreach/Lifelong Learning – The Montana library community speaks in a way that reveals its interconnectedness and establish a cohesive "Montana library" identify that helps community members understand that libraries are for their lives right now as well as for their lifetimes.

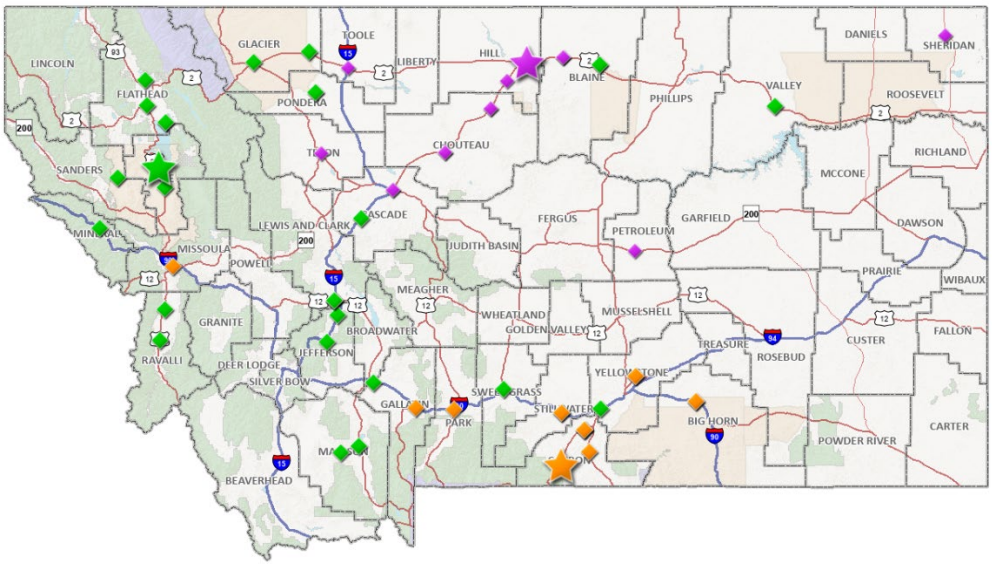
Goal 3: Community Leadership – Librarians, advisory members, and board members listen to their community members to design library services that make a difference in the community while continuing to bride digital/traditional library services.

Goal 4: Internet Access – Every Montanan has access to the Internet

Goal 5: Adequate Support – Library community has adequate and stable support to provide the best library service possible.

The Network Advisory Council working with Library Development staff identified the collaboration, community leadership, and Internet access goals as the three goals to work on in fiscal year 2018.

MSL Workshops On The Road



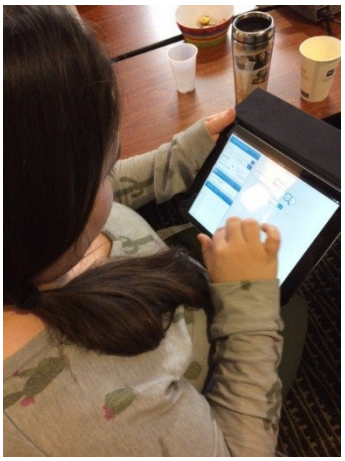
The State Library broke with tradition last year. Instead of offering our large (usually 150+ people) two-day workshop in the fall, we tried a different model where we visited smaller towns and offered shorter workshops. We called them the Montana State Library workshops.

Topics covered community engagement, customer service, the Montana Shared Catalog, Mind in the Making, and Futurescaping for Library Boards.

Librarians from across the State attended workshops held in Polson, Havre, and Red Lodge.

Attendees liked the “small town locations” and that “it wasn’t as far to drive or require as much of a time commitment.” They also enjoyed the “smaller groups.” Approximately 72 people attended the three MSL workshops. Many of them were first time attendees at a State Library event.

We asked attendees and the wider library community if they liked the new format. Some people loved it for the reasons listed above while others wanted to see us return to the one location, two-day event that we held in previous years. People responded that they “did not find this format as effectives as the Fall Workshop” and stated that “the old format allowed me to network with others across the state.”



10 Louise Atole of Glacier County Library attends MSL Workshops - Havre

Library Development staff analyzed the feedback and our experience with the sessions and came up with the idea of alternating the two formats in order to get the best of both worlds. For people who enjoy seeing others from around the state and the longer workshop format, we will be offering a Fall Workshop in 2018. For those who enjoy seeing the small towns, the smaller groups, and traveling fewer miles we will offer the MSL Workshops format in 2019.

Talking Book Library Studio 2 Dedication

On June 14, 2017, MSL dedicated Studio 2, new state-of-the-art recording booth, doubling the physical capacity of our recording program. Funding for Studio 2 was generously donated by the General Federation of Women's Club of Montana (GFWC of Montana) and many individual donors, who together donated $95,500, to the Talking Book Library.

We were honored to be joined at the dedication by the Director of the National Library Services Karen Keninger.

With the dedication of a second recording studio, we will make the world of Talking Books even larger for those with blindness, low vision, a physical and/or reading disability where they cannot read standard print material.

11 DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICES KAREN KENINGER AND COMMISSIONER BRUCE NEWELL.

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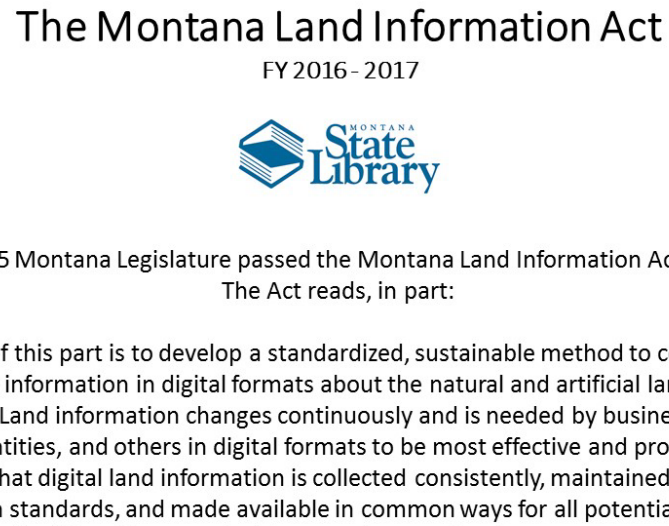
Montana Land Information Act

Part 90-1-404, Montana Code Annotated, of the Montana Land Information Act, requires the State Library to prepare a biennial report to the Legislature. With the approval of the Legislature, MSL created the report for the 65th Legislature in StoryMap form, a first for MSL and the Legislature.


The Montana Land Information Act
FY 2016 - 2017
Montana State Library
The 2005 Montana Legislature passed the Montana Land Information Act (MLIA).
The Act reads, in part:
"The purpose of this part is to develop a standardized, sustainable method to collect, maintain, and disseminate information in digital formats about the natural and artificial land characteristics of Montana. Land information changes continuously and is needed by businesses, citizens, governmental entities, and others in digital formats to be most effective and productive. This part will ensure that digital land information is collected consistently, maintained accurately in accordance with standards, and made available in common ways for all potential uses and users, both private and public. This part prioritizes consistent collection, accurate maintenance, and common availability of land information to provide needed, standardized, and uniform land information in digital formats."

The intent of this report is to not only report on the progress made in the ongoing collection, maintenance, standardization, and dissemination of land information, as statute requires, but to do so in a way that uses data, maps, and rich media to convey this information in meaningful and compelling ways. This format showcases the work of MSL staff and highlights the power of the data and information MSL manages.

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MTNHP releases new Environmental Summary Report tool

Users of MapViewer generate a report in a matter of seconds by to drawing a polygon around an area of interest. For the reporting area, summaries are provided for:

(1) animal and plant observations that have been documented in the area;

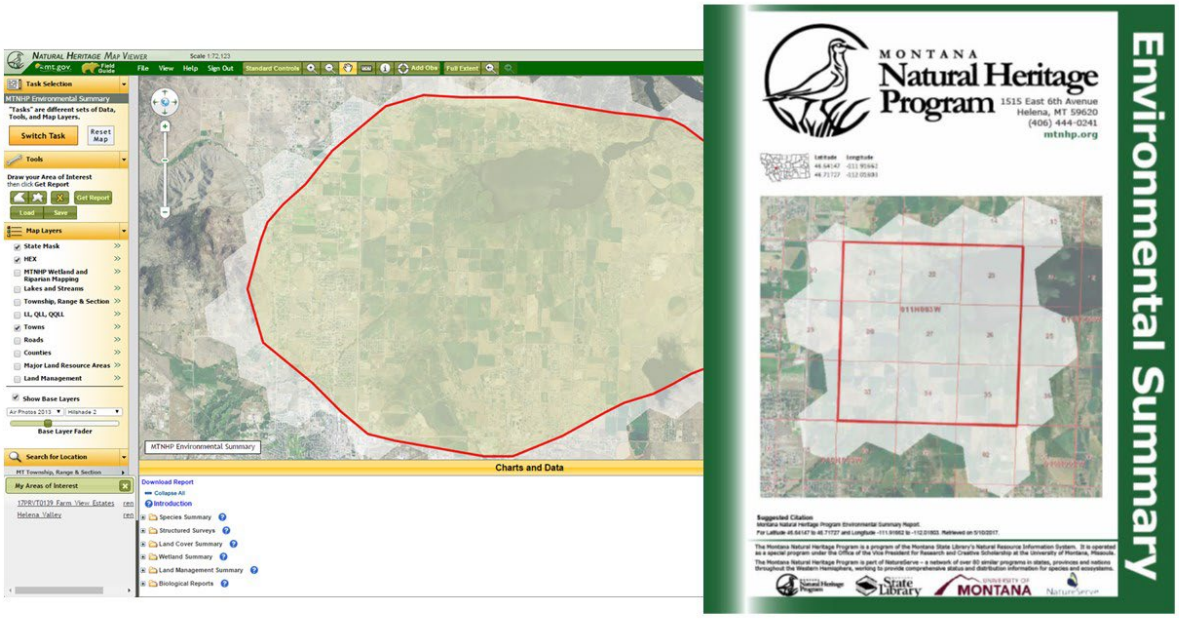
(2) animal and plant species that potentially occur in the area;

(3) structured surveys capable of detecting species;

(4) percentages and acreages of land cover, wetland and riparian mapping types, and land management; and

(5) biological reports.

Users who do not have access to MapViewer may request reports for areas of interest from MTNHP staff.



MSL Complies with the Governor's IT Convergence Executive Order

For years MSL maintained a server room with numerous physical servers to support our significant IT needs. Nearly a decade ago, MSL began to invest in server hosts that enabled MSL to virtualize our server environment. Virtualization meant that MSL could more cost effectively maintain and update servers to support the latest technologies. It also enabled MSL to readily comply with the Governor's Executive Order No. 09-2016 Implementing the State Information Technology Converge Plan. Completed in October 2017, MSL was one of the first agencies to wholly migrate to the State of Montana Data Center. MSL's server architecture is managed through a virtual server platform which allows MSL to make use of Microsoft educational license discounts which results in additional cost savings to the state.

12 EXTERIOR OF HELENA DATA CENTER

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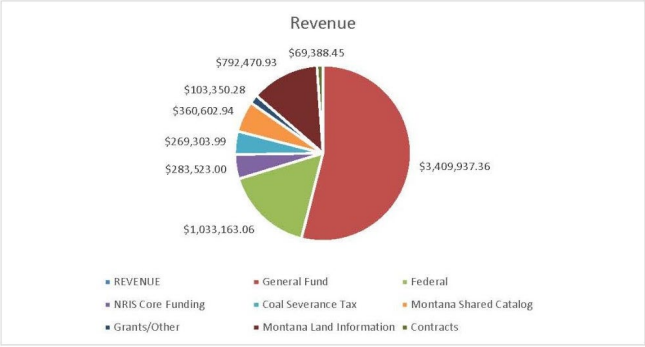
Financial Review

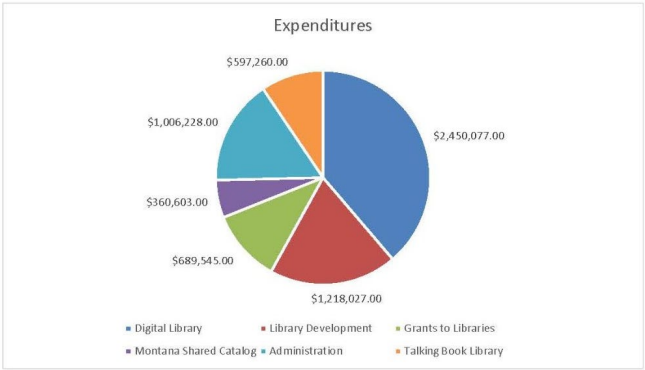
Revenue

General Fund	**$3,409,937**
Federal	$1,033,163
NRIS Core Funding	$283,523
Coal Severance Tax	$269,304
Montana Shared Catalog	$360,603
Grants/Other	$103,350
Montana Land Information	$792,471
Contracts	$69,388
Total	**$6,321,740**

Expenditures

Digital Library	**$2,450,077**
Library Development	$1,218,027
Grants to Libraries	$689,545
Montana Shared Catalog	$360,603
Administration	$1,006,228
Talking Book Library	$597,260
	$6,321,740





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